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27. (Amended) A protective layer transfer sheet for use in providing the image forming method according to claim 22.

28. (Amended) A record comprising a protective layer provided on an image in a print by the image forming method according to claim 22.

29. (Amended) The image forming method according to claim 1, wherein the thermally transferring step is carried out by means of a thermal head.

30. (Amended) The image forming method according to claim 1, wherein the thermally transferring step is carried out by means of a heat roll.

31. (Amended) The image forming method according to claim 1, wherein the protective layer transfer sheet is used in a roll form.

32. (Amended) The image forming method according to claim 1, wherein the protective layer transfer sheet is used in a separated sheet form.

33. (Amended) The image forming method according to claim 32, wherein an assemblage comprising a mount and a protective layer transfer sheet secured on top of the mount is used.

34. (Amended) The image forming method according to claim 33, wherein each size of the mount, the protective layer transfer sheet and the print satisfies the following relationship:

Mount \geq Protective layer transfer sheet \geq Print.

35. (Amended) The image forming method according to claim 33, wherein a basis weight of the mount is in a range of 80 to 500 g/m².